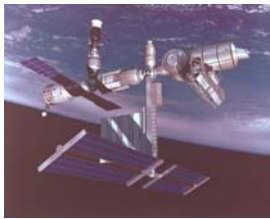


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Expedition 9 crew begins six months of research aboard ISS

Astronaut Hall of Fame inducts five space pioneers May 1



▲ **ISS Update:** The Expedition 9 rendezvoused and docked with the International Space Station at 1:01 a.m. EDT Wednesday. Hatches opened and the three spacefarers – Commander Gennady Padalka, NASA Science

Officer and Flight Engineer Mike Fincke, and visiting researcher European Space Agency Astronaut Andre Kuipers of the Netherlands – entered the ISS at 2 a.m. that morning, beginning more than a week of joint operations with Expedition 8. Kuipers will spend 9 days at the complex conducting science experiments before returning to Earth with Expedition 8.

▲ **Honoring space heroes:** Space heroes will gather for the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame's 2004 Induction Ceremony at 2 p.m. May 1. Inductees are Kathryn D. Sullivan, the first American woman to walk in space; Richard D. Covey, commander of the Hubble Space Telescope repair mission; Frederick D. Gregory, the first African-American to command a spaceship; Norman E. Thagard, the first American to occupy Russia's Mir space station; and the late Francis R. "Dick" Scobee, commander of the ill-fated 1986 Challenger mission, who will be represented by his wife, June Scobee. Apollo 13 Commander Jim Lovell will host and more than 20 Hall of Fame astronauts will attend, including John Glenn, Bob Crippen, Fred Haise, Gene Cernan and John Young. The Induction Ceremony is included as a part of admission to Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex. Induction Weekend tickets are \$65 plus tax for adults and \$45 plus tax for children and are available online at <http://www.KennedySpaceCenter.com> or by calling 449-4444. Please call this number to reserve seats.

◆ **All NASA Employees are invited to attend VPP Flag Ceremony April 26** — In keeping with their guiding principle of Safety and Health First, NASA/KSC chose to pursue recognition in the Occupational Safety and Health Administrations (OSHA) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). The VPP recognizes premier worksites where safety and health are integral considerations in every operation, and programs are continually improved to go above and beyond mere compliance with OSHA regulations. This effort began in March 2003 when NASA KSC submitted the VPP application to OSHA and culminated July 7-11, with an intense review of NASA KSC's safety and health programs by OSHA. Based on the outcome of this review, OSHA recommended NASA KSC for recognition as a "STAR" site, the highest level within VPP. Marking this accomplishment, NASA will be presented the VPP Star Flag at a ceremony at **1 p.m. April 26 at the Mission Briefing Room, O&C Building**. All NASA employees are invited with the permission of their supervisor.

◆ **NASA Parkway construction** — Beginning May 3, V.A. Paving will start paving the westbound lanes of NASA Parkway. The work will begin at the entrance of the Visitor Complex (VC). The roadway will have a reduced speed limit. Please obey the posted speed while the work is ongoing. The work period will be 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., 5 days per week. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Lorence at 867-9293 or James.P.Lorence@nasa.gov.

◆ **Did You Know? The KSC Fitness Centers** present another session in the "Changing Weighs" Nutrition Lecture Series! On **May 12, *Dangers of Fad Diets*** is the topic. The session is 11 a.m. to noon in the O&C Mission Briefing Room (MBR). The backup room is O&C/Room 1055.